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Message Text

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14
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EB-11 AGR-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 AID-20 EUR-25 COME-00 IO-12 RSR-01 /174 W
---------- 026738
R 251125 Z APR 73
FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4194
INFO AMEMBASSY CAPETOWN
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MASERU
AMEMBASSY MBABANE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS GABORONE 0632

E. O. 11652: N/ A
TAGS: PINT PFOR BC ZA
SUBJ: ZAMBIA' S VICE PRESIDENT ADDRESSES ANNUAL BOTSWANA
DEMOCRATIC PARTY CONVENTION

1. ZAMBIA' S VICE PRESIDENT, MAINZA CHONA, WAS THE GUEST SPEAKER AT THE TWELFTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE BOTSWANA DEMOCRATIC PARTY (BDP) WHICH WAS HELD AT LOBATSE ON APRIL 21 AND 22.

2. IN WELCOMING CHONA, BOTSWANA' S PRESIDENT KHAMA POINTED OUT THAT DELEGATIONS FROM U. N. I . P. HAVE COME TO BE REGARDED AS A REGULAR FEATURE OF BDP CONFERENCES. KHAMA SPOKE AT LENGTH ON THE HARDSHIPS WHICH ZAMBIA FACES AS A RESULT OF CLOSURE OF ZAMBIA- RHODESIA BORDER. PRESIDENT KHAMA THEN ANNOUNCED THAT BOTSWANA' S EXPORTS OF BONELESS BEEF TO ZAMBIA WILL REDUCE BOTSWANA' S REVENUES BY ABOUT R305,000 THIS YEAR. HE ADDED THAT THIS IS VIEWED AS BOTSWANA' S ASSISTANCE TO ITS ' BROTHER' NATION AND ALSO SHOWS BOTSWANA' S APPRECIATION FOR THE ASSISTANCE WHICH HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM ZAMBIA. KHAMA EMPHASIZED THAT, AS A LANDLOCKED COUNTRY, BOTSWANA IS SUSCEPTIBLE TO THE SAME PRESSURES AND PROBLEMS CURRENTLY AFFLICTING ZAMBIA AS A
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CONSEQUENCE OF THE CURRENT ZAMBIA - RHODESIA BORDER CRISIS.
ON TWO OCCASIONS THE BOTSWANA PRESIDENT MENTIONED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE BOTSWANA- ZAMBIA ROAD IN GIVING BOTSWANA AN ACCESS TO HER NORTHERN NEIGHBOR SHOULD OTHER STATES CLOSE THEIR FRONTIERS WITH BOTSWANA.

3. VICE PRESIDENT CHONA, IN A REPLY TO PRESIDENT KHAMA' S SPEECH, STRESSED THE PERSONAL FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN PRESIDENTS KHAMA AND KAUNDA. HE ADDED THAT THE TIES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES ARE THE ENVY OF THE ENEMIES ' WITHIN AND OUTSIDE OUR BORDERS WHO ARE WORKING ROUND THE CLOCK TO DISINTERGRATE US AND FRUSTRATE THE IMPRESSIVE ACHIEVEMENTS WE HAVE MADE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR COUNTRIES'. CHONA ALSO CONVEYED THE GRATITUDE OF ZAMBIA FOR BOTSWANA' S SUBSIDIZING OF ZAMBIA' S BEEF PURCHASES. CHONA SPKE AT LENGTH ON ZAMBIA' S ONE PARTY DEMOCRACY BUT HE ADDED THAT THIS ' MEDICINE' MIGHT NOT BE CORRECT IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES AND IN ALL COUNTRIES - AN OBVIOUS REFERENCE TO BOTSWANA' S MULTI- PARTY DEMOCRACY.

4. CHONA WAS A MOST EFFECTIVE SPEAKER AT THE OUTDOOR CONFERENCE. HIS ENTHUSIASM WAS SO CONTAGIOUS THAT HE HAD THE CROWD SINGING, APPLAUDING AND REPEATING HIS REMARKS - SOME OF WHICH WERE DELIVERED IN SEVERAL ZAMBIAN LANGUAGES AND SWAHILI.

5. AIRGRAM WITH TEXTS OF SPEECHES FOLLOWS. NELSON

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TAGS: PFOR, PINT
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CAPE TOWN
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